

College and obtaining his law degree at the University of Maryland in 1907. He had a varied practice but was best known at the trial table where he was always a dangerous opponent. Though not too careful in the preparation of his cases, his knowledge of basic legal principles stood him in good stead, and his cleverness in meeting unexpected situations together with his natural ability in examining and cross-examining witnesses made him successful in practice.

He got his basic training in the courts during the administration of Mayor Preston when S. S. Field was City Solicitor. Field was a lawyer of marked ability and great industry, and he delegated a large share of that busy office's trial work to R. Contee Rose. When Mayor Preston retired from office, Mr. Rose became a member of the firm of Preston and Field. Later in his life he had some important practice before the Interstate Commerce Commission in Washington, and the way in which that commission transacted its business was highly regarded by him.

Four years before his death, he suffered a severe heart attack, and though cruelly crippled, he nevertheless continued to go to his office and kept in practice until the end. He died on December 28, 1952, at the age of 66 years.

In religion, he was a devoted member of the Roman Catholic Church, receiving the degree of Doctor of Laws from Loyola College in 1940. He was, too, a member of the Lay Council of Loyola College.

He is survived by his wife, formerly Nina Pinckney Didier; two sons, Charles Bowie Rose of this city and Richard Contee Rose, Jr., of Alexandria, Va., and six daughters, Mrs. Henry G. Smith of Fairfax, Va., Mrs. J. Worthington Weatherly, Mrs. Saunders Lee Maulsby, Mrs. Paul J. Patterson, Mrs. Richard N. DeVilbiss and Miss Claudia B. Rose, all of this city. There are fourteen grandchildren.

### Samuel K. Dennis

Samuel K. Dennis was born on September 28, 1874, at Beverly, Worcester County, Maryland, the historic Eastern Shore home of his family. Throughout the history of Maryland from early Colonial days, his ancestors took a leading part in the religious, agricultural, legal, civic and public activities of the State. His father was a prominent lawyer, and his uncle sat as a member of the Court of Appeals of Maryland in his capacity as the Chief Judge of the First Judicial Circuit. Throughout his life, Samuel K. Dennis lived up to the finest traditions of his family and his profession.

In his youth, he managed the Beverly estate, and at the same time developed a keen interest in politics. He became private secretary to John Walter Smith when Mr. Smith was serving as Congressman and as Governor. While acting in that capacity, he also attended law courses at the University of Maryland and graduated in 1903 near the top of his class. Shortly thereafter he was elected to the General Assembly of Maryland as a Delegate from Worcester County, and he also entered into a law partnership in Baltimore with his cousin, the late James U. Dennis.

In 1913, Samuel K. Dennis was appointed by President Woodrow Wilson as the United States District Attorney in Maryland, having been the unanimous choice of the Maryland Bar for that post. He filled that post with distinction for many years. After his resignation, he devoted himself to the private practice of the law until his appointment in 1928 by Governor Ritchie as Chief Judge of the Supreme Bench of Baltimore City. He was retired from that position in 1944 under the mandatory retirement laws of Maryland and then again resumed the private practice of the law.

Judge Dennis was active in numerous civic, historical, and humanitarian projects. For many years he was a tireless worker for the Sanitarium at Sabilasville. He also served as the head of the American Red Cross in Maryland during World War II, having been a close advisor to and active in that organization for many years. He was prominent in the Maryland Historical Society, and served as Chairman of the Publications Committee, as Vice-President of the Society, and as one of its three honorary members. He was also active in the Eastern Shore Society, serving as one of its earliest Presidents.

For many years, Judge Dennis was one of the Trustees of the First Presbyterian Church of Baltimore. He was also a Director of the Fidelity & Deposit Company and was a Director and member of the Executive and Trust Committee of the Fidelity Trust Company. He also served as a member of the Board of the Eutaw Savings Bank.

Many of his ancestors having attended Princeton University, and Judge Dennis having been thwarted by circumstances beyond his control in his desire to attend the same University, he was greatly pleased at being chosen an honorary alumnus of Princeton.

Judge Dennis was noted for his brilliance, integrity, energy, and his keen and delightful sense of humor. The Bar of Maryland suffered a tremendous loss when he died on January 11, 1953. He is survived by his widow, Mrs. Helen Moore Dennis.